

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 26, 2019

THE CHURCH GATHERS

Chiming of the Hour

Introit "St. Anne" C.S. Lang

Welcome and Announcements

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Choral Call to Worship "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" arr. J. Martin

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Brooks Sheldon, Liturgist

Leader: Let praise to God resound in the heavens!

People: Let praise to God fill the earth!

Leader: Let all God's angels offer praise and rejoicing!

People: Let all God's creatures sing praise and joy!

Leader: Open your hearts and spirits today.

People: Let us worship and praise the Lord, today and always! Amen.

*Opening Hymn #86 "Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart" G. Croly/F.C. Atkinson

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Patient God, sometimes we are just too busy for our own good. We pledge ourselves to hectic schedules, demands on time, energy, and resources that erode all too quickly. We seem to be rushing through life. The cries of those in need often go unheeded in our blur of activities which sap our energy, our resources, our spirits. Slow us down a bit, Lord. Remind us again that we are responsible for the care of this world, for reaching out and offering your healing love. Help us to hear the words of patient love that you have for us. Remind us again of Jesus' words to his disciples when he told them that they should love one another as he loved them. May we take time to bear witness to that love in all that we do. For we ask this in Jesus' name, amen. *(We continue in silence...)*

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

One: Friends, hear and believe the gospel:

All: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!**

*Joyful Response

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

G. Kendrick

Shine, Jesus, shine, Fill this land with the Father's glory,

Blaze, spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire,

Flow, river, flow, Flood the nations with grace and mercy,

Send forth your word Lord, and let there be light.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: As God in Christ forgives us, let us forgive one another.
The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share the Peace of Christ.

WE RESPOND TO GOD WITH OFFERINGS AND PRAISE

The Offering

Offertory "Vignette"

F. Ritter

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

*Prayer of Dedication

Time for Young Disciples

Children 2nd grade or younger may be dismissed to Children's Church.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Revelation 21:1-7

Anthem "I Know that My Redeemer Lives" C. Courtney

Second Lesson: Revelation 21:9-11, 22-22:7

Sermon "The New Heaven and the New Earth" Dr. Richard T. Gillespie

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

All things will be renewed in Christ.

In Christ God gave us a glimpse of the new creation he has already begun and will surely finish. We do not know when the final day will come. In our time we see only broken and scattered signs that the renewal of all things is under way. We do not yet see the end of cruelty and suffering in the world, the church, or our own lives.

But we see Jesus as Lord!

As he stands at the center of our history, we are confident he will stand at its end. He will judge all people and nations. Evil will be condemned and rooted out of God's good creation. There will be no more tears or pain. All things will be made new. The fellowship of human beings with God and each other will be perfected.

**All praise, glory and honor be to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
Amen!**

(A Declaration of Faith, Presbyterian Church U.S.A.)

*Closing Hymn #246 "Jesus Shall Reign" I. Watts/J. Hatton

*BENEDICTION "I Know that My Redeemer Lives" C. Courtney

*POSTLUDE "Rentrée de Procession" Boëly

(* *We stand as we are able*)

*The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to
the glory of God and in memory of
the brave men and women who made the supreme sacrifice
in service to this country
by Doug and Laura Hall*